

REMARKS

In the present application claims 1-17 originally pending, with this amendment claims 8 and 15-17 have been cancelled. Further claims 1, 6, 9, 11 and 13 have been amended as described in detail below.

Claims 1-7, 12, 13 and 15-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Hill (U.S. Patent No. 4,658,436) in view of Applicant's Fig. 1. The Office Action, however, further states that claims 8-11 are allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claim 1 to include all the limitations of original claim 8, and claim 8 has been cancelled. Claim 1 is, thus, now believed allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Hill in view of Applicant's Fig. 1. Claims 2-7, 12 and 13 are further believed allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based at least on their dependency on amended claim 1. Claims 15-17 have been cancelled.

Claims 8-11 are indicated by the Office Action as allowable if rewritten in independent form. With claim 8 cancelled and its limitations now included in claim 1, claim 9 has been amended to be dependent on claim 1 instead of claim 8. Further claim 13 has been amended to not be dependent on claim 8. With all of claims 9-13 now being dependent on allowable claims, Applicant respectfully requests that this objection be withdrawn.

Claim 14 is indicated by the Office Action as allowable.

Claims 6 and 11 have been amended to make minor grammatical corrections.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, claims 1-7 and 9-14 are now all believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

No fee is believed due with this response. Should a fee be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 06-1325.

Respectfully submitted,

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